

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for performing analytical reporting on top of a
2 multidimensional data model built on top of a relational or multidimensional database,
3 wherein the database operates in a computer system and provides returned values responsive
4 to queries specified in a predefined query language, wherein the database supports the use of
5 functions and operators to perform operations on values within the database, wherein the
6 multidimensional data model includes a plurality dimensions organizing data as sets of values
7 organized in a hypercube, wherein the method includes a user interface executing on a
8 computer system operated by a human user, wherein the computer system executing the user
9 interface includes a processor coupled to a memory, wherein the processor is further coupled
10 to the user interface, data model, and the database, the method comprising the following acts:

11 displaying a reporting object that displays values selected by one or
12 more axes of the multidimensional data model;

13 displaying a hierarchical view of at least a part of a hypercube in the
14 multidimensional data model showing dimensions and dimension members of the hypercube;

15 using the user interface to associate a first dimension object with the
16 reporting object; and

17 displaying a set of reporting objects, each corresponding to a member
18 of the dimension, where the reporting object displays values of measures of the
19 corresponding dimension member including multiple blocks synchronized along a common
20 axis, nested sections, and breaks.

1 2. The method of claim further comprising the acts of:

2 displaying an analysis user interface;

3 selecting a cell of said reporting object; and

4 utilizing a GUI tool to select an OLAP analysis action to be performed
5 on the cell.

1 3. The method of claim 2 further comprising the act of:

2 selecting the OLAP analysis action to be drill down or drill up.

1 4. The method of claim 1 further comprising the acts of:
2 associating a specific member of the first dimension object with the
3 first dimension object to select only the specific member when displaying the reporting
4 object.

1 5. The method of claim 1 further comprising the acts of:
2 associating a second dimension object, nested under the first dimension
3 object, with the reporting object; and
4 defining a filter to sort the second dimension object according to a
5 specified criteria.

1 6. A computer program product for performing analytical reporting on
2 top of a multidimensional data model built on top of a relational or multidimensional
3 database, wherein the database operates in a computer system and provides returned values
4 responsive to queries specified in a predefined query language, wherein the database supports
5 the use of functions and operators to perform operations on values within the database,
6 wherein the multidimensional data model includes a plurality dimensions organizing data as
7 sets of values organized in a hypercube, wherein the method includes a user interface
8 executing on a computer system operated by a human user, wherein the computer system
9 executing the user interface includes a processor coupled to a memory, wherein the processor
10 is further coupled to the user interface, data model, and the database, the method comprising
11 the following acts:

12 a computer readable medium having program code embodied therein, said
13 program code further comprising:

14 program code executed by the processor for displaying a reporting
15 object the displays values selected by one or more axes of the multidimensional data
16 model;

17 program code executed by the processor for displaying a hierarchical
18 view of at least a part of a hypercube in the multidimensional data model showing
19 dimensions and dimension members of the hypercube;

20 program code executed by the processor for enabling using the user
21 interface to associate a first dimension object with the reporting object; and

22 program code executed by the processor for displaying a set of
23 reporting objects, each corresponding to a member of the dimension, where the
24 reporting object displays values of measures of the corresponding dimension member
25 including multiple blocks synchronized along a common axis, nested sections, and
26 breaks.